

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 02226 241050Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 AID-01 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1187
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2226

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP, TU, CY
SUBJ: TRAVEL OF CONGRESSMAN STEPHEN SOLARZ

REF: A) STATE 75594, B) ANKARA 2053

1. WE WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE OUR CONCERN THAT DECISION TO
CHANGE ROUTING OF CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ TRAVEL FROM CYPRUS TO
TURKEY WILL BE VIEWED WITH DISMAY BY GOT. IN MIND OF TURKS
SUCH AN ACTION IS LIKELY TO CONFIRM WORST SUSPICIONS ABOUT
US WILLINGNESS TO CATER TO GREEK AND GREEK CYPRIOT CONCERNS
AT THE EXPENSE OF TURKISH INTERESTS.

2. THEIR EMOTIONAL RESPONSE TO SECRETARY VANCE'S STATEMENT
AT THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MARCH 9 IS AN
EXAMPLE OF HOW THEY CAN OVERREACT. THAT EMOTIONAL RESPONSE
HAS NOT ADED DURING THE LAST FIFTEEN DAYS. IN FACT, MANY
GOT OFFICIALS, PARTICULARLY PRIMIN ECEVIT, SEEM TO BE
SAVORING THE BURST OF NATIONALISM TOUCHED OF BY
ECEVIT'S REACTION TO SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

3. GOT MAY EVEN DECIDE THAT SOLARZ' TRAVEL PLANS CHANGED
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AS A RESULT OF ADMINISTRATION PRESSURE SINCE SUCH A
CONCLUSION WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH GROWING BELIEF THAT THE
ADMINISTRATION HAS REPLACED CONGRESS AS THE MAJOR IMPEDIMENT
TO AN IMPROVED BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.

4. AS WE STATED IN REF (B) WE THINK IT IS POSSIBLE GOT
WILL CONSIDER NOT GRANTING FLIGHT CLEARANCE FOR LARNACA-

ANKARA FLIGHT. AT VERY LEAST THEY ARE LIKELY TO BE STICKLY ABOUT ADHERENCE TO SEVEN DAY ADVANCE NOTICE FOR FLIGHT CLEARANCE REQUEST.

5. ONE FINAL PROBLEM COMES FROM OUR OWN REGULATIONS. THE USAIR FORCE FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE PROHIBITS FLIGHT OF US MILITARY AIRCRAFT OVER TURKISH CONTROLLED PROTION OF CYPRUS. WE UNDERSTANDTHAT FOR FLIGHT TO BE MADE, WAIVER BY DEPT. OF AIR FORCE WOULD BE NECESSARY.

6. FOR ALL OF THESE REASONS WE BELIEVE TRAVEL OF CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ FROM LARNACA TO ANKARA INADVISABLE. POTENTIAL PLUSES OF SOLAR VISIT TO ANKARA WOULD IN MANY RESPECTS BE CANCELLED OUT. WE URGE DECISION RECONSIDERED.
SPIERS

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